

just preceding me got it all wrong, because the truth is, according to the Los Angeles Times, that California loses a billion dollars in school lunch money that would go to directly buy means for young children in our schools who need it or they risk being hungry every day—a billion dollars.

The Republicans want to talk about how they are cutting the bureaucracy in Washington. The School Lunch Program is run in the States. It is run by local people, local school districts, and the billion dollars comes out of the lunches of children.

The article goes on to say that the billion dollars comes out of the pocket of working parents who have their children in family day care, because those children will now lose the \$3 a day so we are talking about 30,000 day care centers in California that will lose this money, and that means that they will simply have to drop out and parents will not be able to afford day care.

We are talking an additional \$60 a month for day care. That is where the billion dollars is. That is the loss of California. That is the truth outside the beltway.

REFORMING WELFARE

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, we have been hearing a lot of griping from the other side of the aisle over Republican efforts to overhaul the current welfare system. It seems that every time Republicans suggest a positive idea for change, the Democrats immediately start yelling no. What I find interesting is that the Democrats have not introduced any legislation of their own. They have no bill. All they are doing is defending with all their might the status quo and the liberal welfare state that they built up over the last 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the American people want change. They are sick and tired of paying for a system that has produced failure, crime and decay.

We have heard the voters, the mandate that they gave for smaller government, a less costly government, a more efficient government. By reforming welfare, we are giving the American people what they demand.

SCHOOL LUNCH CUTS

(Mr. WISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, at Berkeley Heights Elementary School this week they do not think of the School Lunch Program as welfare. They think of simple nutrition and simple common sense. Those who say that there is no cut, apparently they have not spoken to those in their States as I have who

know that, who have read their legislation and know that the Republicans are proposing cuts, real cuts that will mean the folding of School Lunch Programs across the country.

Reputable groups say it could be as much as \$7 billion, because what is done is you put the programs, the nutritional programs like school lunch, school breakfast, emergency food supplements, Women, Infants and Children all into one block grant. Then what you do is you make people fight to compete over those. You also remove the standards that have been so important. Remember the days of ketchup and relish being a vegetable. You do not have to worry about that anymore because you just take the whole lunch tray so you do not have to worry what is on it anymore.

I also have great concerns about making this a block grant. Because when you put Women, Infants and Children and all the others together, you make the pregnant mother compete with her children in school for supplement and you make the day care toddler compete with his brothers and sisters in elementary school for lunch.

DEMOCRATS AND BUREAUCRATS

(Mr. CHAMBLISS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, how many times have we heard that money is the root of all evil? I do not know if it is the root of all evil, but it does appear to be the root of the disinformation campaign being waged by the Democrats to, get this, defend the current welfare system.

A quick perusal of campaign finance records shows that the eight largest Federal employee unions gave a whopping nine times more to Democratic candidates than Republican candidates over the last five election cycles.

Once we know that fact, it is easier to understand the Democrats' attack on the Republican plan to increase spending on the school lunches while decreasing the Federal bureaucracy.

Once we know that fact, it is no surprise that the Democrats have decided to cast their lot with the bureaucrats instead of the recipients of the School Lunch program, namely the children at schools like R.B. Wright school in my hometown where my wife has taught for 20 years.

Once we know that fact, it is easy to understand why the American people chose Republicans on November 8 to conduct welfare reform.

SUPPORT FOR WIC

(Mr. DURBIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, I wish some of my Republican friends would just spend a few minutes visiting a WIC clinic, just a few minutes, to see the real faces of women and their children who come to those clinics each day and with the help of a system that is very successful raise healthy children who really are tomorrow's future.

For the Republicans it is just statistics. It is just welfare. But for the rest of America, it is the real life that we lead.

There was an amendment before the committee which suggested we should continue to have competition and bidding for infant formula under that program. The competition and bidding that Democrats push save American taxpayers over \$1 billion a year. And yet the Republicans, on a partisan vote, rejected that. The Wall Street Journal reported yesterday why, because the four largest infant formula companies in this country stand to gain \$1 billion more in profits because the Republicans walked away from this cost efficiency which Democrats have pushed.

Forty percent of the infants in America today are in the WIC Program. We cannot have a strong America if we do not have strong children. Let us stick with the programs that work.

END CONDEMNATION WITHOUT COMPENSATION

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the 104th Congress will have the opportunity to right a fundamental wrong occurring every day across America. It is called condemnation without compensation.

If the Government wants to put a highway in your front yard, it has to pay you compensation for using your property. That is only fair.

If the Government wants to impose a regulation converting private land into a wildlife sanctuary or a wetlands preserve, it should also have to pay you fair compensation. In both cases, the private property owner is being asked to sacrifice his land for the public good. It would not be fair to force the unfortunate landowner to shoulder the entire burden.

Too often today, that is just what happens—American families, farmers, and businessowners are stripped of private property by Government regulations. But, unlike with condemnation, these forgotten Americans are never compensated.

The Private Property Protection Act of 1995 would put an end to condemnation without compensation. I urge my colleagues to stand up for these forgotten Americans and support this legislation.